

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated June 18, 2007. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claim 4 has been amended to further characterize the controller used in the present invention. In particular, the controller has a number of separate integrate circuits individually mounted to the cradle, each with a memory buffer for print data. The controller determines how many of the separate IC's are needed to operate the cartridge at its designated print speed. This arrangement is described in detail in the 'Cradle' subsection of the Detailed Description.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 U.S.C. §103 - Claims 1 to 3

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 6,962,404 to Nunokawa et al, in view of US 6,352,329 to Watanabe et al.

We submit that amended claim 4 distinguishes the present invention from the cited references. As discussed above, the controller has a number of separate integrated circuits individually mounted to the cradle. Each integrated circuit has a memory buffer for print data and the controller determines how many of the separate integrated circuits are needed to operate the installed cartridge at its designated print speed. Neither of the citations disclose a controller with a number of separate driver chips (ICs) so that the capacity of the drive circuitry can be matched to different cartridge units.

In light of the above, the cited reference does not teach a fundamental element of the present invention. Accordingly, the cited reference fails to anticipate the invention defined by new claim 4 or previously amended claim 3.

Specification

The Applicant has amended pages 1 and 2 of the specification by deleting the paragraphs entitled "Cross-references to co-pending applications" and replacing them with new updated paragraphs. The US application numbers have merely been replaced by their corresponding US grant numbers, where applicable. The Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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